

“What if ... you only had 35 days?”

“What If” Mission Statement: The purpose of this series is to help you recognize the incredible resource you have been given called “time” and to embrace it and use it to its fullest potential.

Life Change Lesson One: Make God part of your everyday.

Life Change Lesson Two: Be willing and wanting to change.

Morph (*Morphoo*): “the inward and real formation of the essential nature of a person”.

Galatians 4:19–20: My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is *formed in you*, how I wish I could be with you now and change my tone, because I am perplexed about you!

1 Peter 2:4–8: As you come to him, the living Stone — rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him — you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone,” and, “A stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message — which is also what they were destined for.

Question: Is Christ a precious stone or a stumbling block?

Who Are You As a Believer?

1. You are chosen by God.

1 Peter 2:9a: But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God ...

Believers are:

- royalty
- ministers
- holy
- belonging to God

2. You are on a mission.

1 Peter 2: 9b: ...that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Believers are:

- sharing God
- living in His light

3. You are free!

1 Peter 2: 10: Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Believers are:

- chosen recipients of His mercy

1 Peter 2:11–12: Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

1 Peter 2:16–17: Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God. Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king.

Romans 12:1: *Therefore*, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God — this is your spiritual act of worship.

“How” do we Morph?

1. We give ourselves fully to God.

Romans 12: 2a: Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world ...

- A new pattern is established.

2. We renew our minds.

Romans 12: 2b: ... but be *transformed* by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will.

3. We're marked with a seal, sealed with a promise, and promised an inheritance.

2 Corinthians 3:18: And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being *transformed* into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

Ephesians 1:13–14: And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession — to the praise of his glory.

Life Change Lesson Three: Begin seeing who God has destined you to be.

Things we asked you to do for the next *seven* days:

- ✓ Read one chapter of Proverbs and five chapters of Psalms every day.
- ✓ Pray thanking God for the day He has given you and ask for His guidance every morning. Talk with Him and listen throughout the day. Close the evening considering what you accomplished in His name.
- ✓ Start a journal recording your thoughts, plans and goals for the next 49 days and record what happens each day.
- ✓ Seek the Lord in how He would like you to change in the next seven days. Start living 1 Peter 2: 4–17 and Ephesians 4: 3–14 daily.